

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for reducing power consumption of a LCD(Liquid Crystal Display) backlight lamp, comprising:

5 a power unit for supplying power;

a control unit being supplied power from the power unit and outputting a brightness control information signal having a plurality of discrete incremental level values corresponding to discrete brightness levels;

10 an inverter unit receiving the brightness control information signal from the control unit and outputting driving power of a corresponding level in accordance therewith, for driving a backlight lamp by levels; and

a backlight lamp receiving the power from the inverter unit .

2. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising;

15 a memory unit storing a control information for adjusting a brightness of a LCD screen

3. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a key input unit for adjusting a brightness of a LCD screen.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the control unit includes:

a keyboard controller discriminating a key press state by a user and outputting a brightness adjustment key input signal;

25 a microprocessor receiving the brightness adjustment key input signal and selecting a kind of brightness adjustment information and brightness ROM table,

and outputting the brightness control information;

a brightness adjustment information outputting unit outputting a brightness adjustment information signal to the inverter unit according to the brightness control information inputted from the microprocessor.

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5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the microprocessor controls the brightness adjustment information signal linearly or nonlinearly so as to be similar to a brightness increase curve by composing the brightness ROM table according to the luminescent characteristics of the backlight lamp.

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6. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the brightness adjustment information outputting unit outputs a digital brightness adjustment information signal converted into information required for the brightness adjustment to the inverter unit.

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7. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the digital brightness adjustment information signal uses a voltage level of a D/A port, a PWM duty cycle signal or a SM BUS (System Management Bus) signal.

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8. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the memory unit includes a memory unit storing brightness information of a last brightness level inputted from the control unit and an incremental brightness variation value setting unit for outputting a preset brightness value by incremental level to the control unit.

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9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the variation value setting unit

sets a brightness variation quantity by incremental level or a variation time by incremental level according to an input by a user.

10. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the power unit uses a power
5 adapter or a battery as a power source and is constructed with a power discrimination unit for discriminating between the power sources.

11. A method for saving power of a LCD backlight lamp, comprising:
outputting a brightness control signal to an inverter corresponding to a
10 brightness information value, wherein the brightness information value gradually increases over a certain time period in consideration of luminescent characteristics of a backlight lamp; and
outputting a constant brightness control signal corresponding to the
brightness information value after the gradually increased brightness information
15 value reaches a preset value.